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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

HOPS PRODUCTION TO INCREASE;
NINE COMBINES SET UP

135,000 CUSTOMS CENTNERS FOR 1949 -- Hospodar, No 37, 15 Sep 49

According to the Five-Year Plan, 135,000 customs centners [one customs centner equals 50 kilograms] of hops will be produced in 1949, or 38,000 customs centners more than in 1948.

Output of hops per hectare has been as follows: in 1937, 20.7 customs centners; in 1944, 17.3; in 1945, 12.3; in 1946, 14.4; in 1947, 12.0; and in 1948, 11.6.

Total 1948 hops production amounted to 97,233 customs centners, of which 25,000 customs centners were allotted to Czechoslovak breweries and 72,000 for export. Total production in 1937 amounted to 244,000 customs centners. According to the Five-Year Plan, production will rise to 153,000 customs centners in 1953, and output per hectare will amount to 17 customs centners. Domestic consumption will increase to 45,000 customs centners at the end of the Five-Year Plan, leaving 108,000 customs centners for export.

According to the periodical Kvas, 11,457 hectares were devoted to hops cultivation in 1928 and 8,240 hectares in 1945. In 1953, 9,000 hectares will be devoted to hops.

ESTABLISH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE COMBINES -- Rude Pravo, No 219, 17 Sep 49

The Administration of State Farms has established fruit and vegetable combines in the nine most suitable regions of the republic. The combines will be the exclusive suppliers of pure seeds and trees to state farms, cooperatives, farmers, and gardeners.

The most important combine will be that at Litomerice since it has the best conditions for plant breeding. There are not 60,000 fruit trees in the Litomerice region. The number will be increased by 50,000 additional trees, consisting of 10,000 nut trees, 10,000 pear trees, 20,000 apricot trees, and 10,000 apple trees, during the Five-Year Plan. Special attention will be given to production of apples, which can be stored for long periods of time. Special warehouses will be built to store apples during the winter for later distribution. Berry

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plantations, which now cover 10 hectares in the Litomerice region, will be increased to 50 hectares during the Five-Year Plan. The area now planted in vegetables will be increased fourfold next year.

CONSUMPTION OF FERTILIZER DECLINES -- Hospodar, No 37, 15 Sep 49

According to an announcement of the Artificial Fertilizer Producers' Association the fertilizer consumed in Czechoslovakia between 1 May 1948 and 30 April 1949 contained 363,603 quintals of nitrogen, 581,659 quintals of phosphoric acid, and 244,875 quintals of potash.

According to the State Statistical Office, consumption of fertilizers (in thousands of quintals) has been as follows:

Type of Fertilizer	1937	1947-48	1948-49
Nitrogenous	1,199.8	1,445.4	1,721.8
Phosphorous	2,868.0	3,484.3	3,635.4
Potash	811.3	1,437.5	541.8
Combined	91.3	121.1	218.2
Organic	102.8	.1	0
Total	5,073.2	6,488.4	6,117.2

On the average, one hectare of agricultural land received 4.8 kilograms of nitrogen, 7.7 kilograms of phosphoric acid, and 3.3 kilograms of potash in 1948-49. The value of artificial fertilizer consumed amounted to 1,421,616,509 crowns, or 189.02 crowns per hectare of agricultural land.

BETTER HARVEST REPORTED -- Hospodar, No 37, 15 Sep 49

A total of 1,400 carloads of rape, 52 carloads of poppy, and 95 carloads of mustard have been purchased in the Czech Provinces from the 1949 harvest. This compares favorably with 235 carloads of rape, 39 carloads of poppy, and 63 carloads of mustard delivered by the same area in 1948. The amount purchased from this year's harvest in Slovakia was 60 carloads of rape, one carload of poppy, and one carload of mustard.

NUMBER OF SHEEP DECREASING -- Hospodar, No 37, 15 Sep 49

The number of sheep in Czechoslovakia has decreased from 510,319 in 1946 and 490,505 in 1947 to 245,545 in 1948. The number in 1938 was 533,685.

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